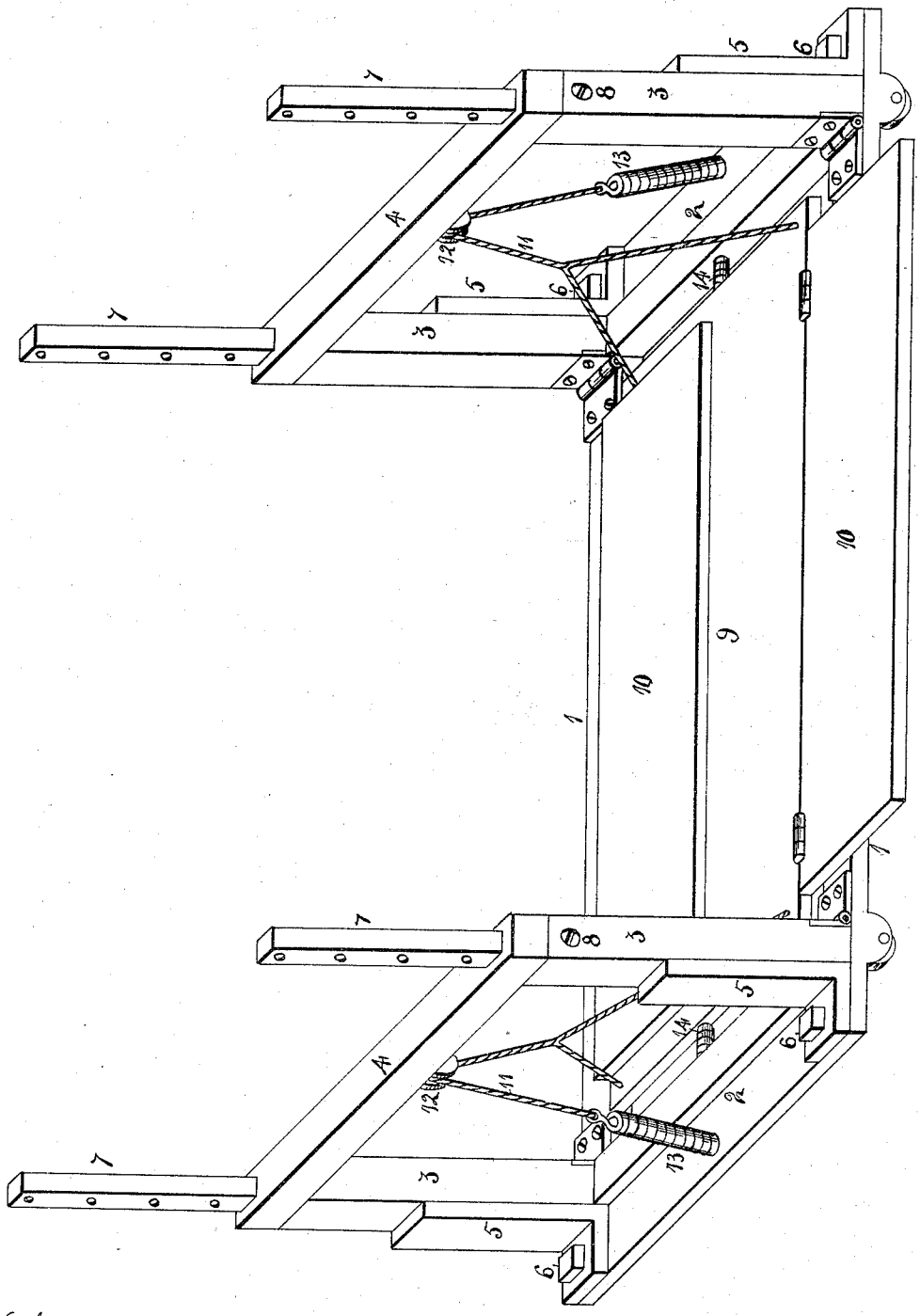
(No Model.)

J. H. BOWLEY.

KNOCKDOWN RACK.

No. 541,989. Patented July 2, 1895.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH H. BOWLEY, OF MARENGO, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO JOHN W. STOCKWELL, OF SAME PLACE.

KNOCKDOWN RACK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 541,989, dated July 2, 1895.

Application filed February 13, 1895. Serial No. 538,310. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH H. BOWLEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Marengo, in the county of McHenry and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Knockdown Shipping-Racks, of which the following is a specification.

The object of this invention is to construct a knockdown rack for shipping breakable merchandise in which the merchandise is suspended in a yielding manner and all jar is relieved by the action of springs.

In the accompanying drawings I have shown an isometrical representation of a knockdown rack embodying my improvements.

The lengthwise base-beams 1 are held separated by end beams 2. Near each end of the lengthwise beams is located an upright 3, having their upper ends connected by a cross-bar 4. These uprights have a hinge connection with the lengthwise beams, and a bracket 5, secured to each upright, has a detachable connection with the base-beams by the screw-bolt 6.

The uprights 3 are each provided with a central lengthwise opening, in which is placed an extension-bar 7, held in an adjustable manner by the screw 8.

A platform 9 is located within the space bounded by the lengthwise beams and end beams and has a leaf 10, hinge-jointed to each side. The platform is supported at each end by a cable 11, passing over a sheave 12, suspended from the cross-beam 4. The other end of this cable has a connection with a spiral spring 13, connected to the end beams 2. A spiral spring 14 is located between the ends of the platform and end beams.

In use the rack will appear as shown in the drawings, with the exception that both leaves are in their extended position. The merchandise to be shipped is placed upon the platform and leaves, and should it reach above the uprights the extension 7 may be drawn up and clamped in position. A rope is passed around the merchandise, uprights, and extensions to hold the merchandise upon the platform.

The spiral springs 13 support the entire weight of the platform and merchandise and hold them in a yielding manner, and the end springs take off the lateral jar. Springs of more or less strength are used to support the platform, according to the weight of the merchandise placed thereon.

The rack is especially adapted for the shipment of eggs and crockery, in which great care is required to prevent breakage in the usual manner of shipment.

When the rack is returned, the leaves are turned upon the platform and the screw-bolts 6 are withdrawn, allowing the upright to be folded inward in such position that the rack will occupy but little space.

I claim as my invention—

1. A knock-down-rack, consisting of a base frame, hinged ends, and a platform, a sheave supported by each end, a spring connected to the base frame at each end, a flexible connection connecting the spring and platform passing over the sheave.

2. A knock-down-rack, consisting of a base frame, hinged ends, and a platform, the ends having vertical extensions and each extension having a series of openings, and means for securing the extension in connection with the hinged ends.

3. A knock down rack, consisting of a base frame, hinged ends and a platform having hinged leaves, a sheave supported by each end, a spring connected to the frame at each end, a flexible connection connecting the spring and platform passing over the sheave.

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